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IN THE SUPREME COURT STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of)	
PETITION TO AMEND RULE 15.8,)	Supreme Court
ARIZONA RULES OF CRIMINAL)	No. R-13-0004
PROCEDURE)	
)	Comment of the
)	Maricopa County
)	Public Defender
)	

The Court's November 14, 2013 Order implemented amended Rule 15.8 and invited comments to the revised rule. The Maricopa County Public Defender's Office has been actively involved in Rule 15.8 since its inception and has provided this Court with substantial information regarding the key role that this rule can play in providing defendants and defense counsel with information needed to make informed decisions about whether to enter into a plea agreement, a critical event in the criminal justice arena. We stand by those comments.

We assume, however, that the intent of the Court's November 14, 2013 Order was to receive comments focused on the practical application of the

amended rule over the past 5 months. To this end, we solicited feedback from our attorneys and other offices, but have nothing to report: we are unaware of any significant activity regarding the amended rule. We anticipate that will change, however, and agree that the minor modifications suggested by the State Bar in its May 8, 2014 Comment are needed to accurately state the scope of the amended rule and clarify the prosecution's ongoing duty to supplement discovery. We urge the Court to adopt these changes.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 19th day of May, 2014

/s/ Jeremy D. Mussman
Jeremy D. Mussman
Deputy Director
Maricopa County Public Defender